

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A textile construction, comprising:

a conductive elastomeric material suitable including at least one area for converting a mechanical interaction therewith into at least one electronic signal; related to the at least one area of the conductive elastomeric material, ~~wherein mechanical interaction in proximity with the at least one area of said conductive elastomeric material produces the at least one electronic signal;~~ and

an actuator ~~in contact with a surface of the conductive elastomeric material that cooperates with~~ for mechanically interacting with the at least one area of the conductive elastomeric material, the actuator including to provide a user interface such that a user mechanical interaction with the actuator produces having predefined markings describing functions of an electronic device that are initiated by the at least one electronic signal, wherein the actuator is formed from one or more of a plastic and rubber, and wherein the cooperation between the actuator and the at least one area of the conductive elastomeric material includes at least one of movement and mechanical interaction of the actuator with respect to the at least one area of the conductive elastomeric material, and wherein the actuator is operated with respect to visual markings such that a user may see where or in

~~what manner the mechanical interaction with the user interface should be made to obtain a predefined function of an electronic device associated with the textile construction that responds to the at least one electronic signal.~~

2. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein one or more characteristics of the conductive elastomeric material change in response to the mechanical interaction.

3. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the conductive elastomeric material has piezoelectric characteristics.

4. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the conductive elastomeric material comprises one or more of a polypyrrole/lycra, a polypyrrole/nylon, a polypyrrole/polyester, or other conjugated polymer, or ion-implanted polymer.

5. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the conductive elastomeric material can have one or more of the following: a flexible metal coated fabric including woven, non-woven, and/or knit, filaments, foils, and yarns, a conductive polymer coated fiber/fabric, a conductive graphitized fiber/fabric, and a conductive gel coated fiber/fabric.

6. (Currently amended) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the actuator is formed

from a rigid material more rigid than the conductive elastomeric material.

7. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the actuator is formed from rubber.

8. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the actuator includes the visual markings such that a user may see where or in what manner the mechanical interaction with the user interface should be made to obtain the predefined function.

9. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein one or more characteristics of the conductive elastomeric material change in proportional response to the mechanical interaction, the mechanical interaction causing one or more areas of said conductive elastomeric material to be displaced.

10-20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the actuator is cooperative with two or more conductive areas.

22. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 21, wherein one or more characteristics of the one or more conductive areas change in response to the mechanical interaction with the actuator.

23. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 22, wherein a displacement ratio between the one or more conductive areas is used to quantify at least one of a degree of the mechanical interaction, a speed of the mechanical interaction, and a rate of the mechanical interaction.

24. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the actuator is in contact with the conductive elastomeric material such that the mechanical interactions causes one or more areas of the conductive elastomeric material to be displaced.

25. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the user interface is operable for manipulation of one or more functionalities requiring proportional input.

26. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the user interface is operable for manipulation of two or more functionalities.

27. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the user interface is operable for manipulation of three or more functionalities.

28. (Previously presented) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the conductive elastomeric material is formed from conductive fibers having a conductive core.

29. (Currently amended) The textile construction of claim 28, wherein the conductive fibers include a conductive ~~semi-fluid~~ sleeve enclosing said conductive core.

30. (Currently amended) The textile construction of claim 29, wherein the conductive ~~semi-fluid~~ sleeve and the conductive core are bonded together through sonic welding.

31. (Currently amended) The textile construction of claim 1, wherein the conductive elastomeric material is formed from conductive fibers ~~including a conductive semi-fluid sleeve~~.